Government is pursuing a policy of establishing and enhancing cooperation in the defence sector, with various countries including USA. Steps are being taken to give effect to this policy in a phased manner and to the extent necessitated by and consistent with national interest. During the visit of US Defence Secretary to India in January 1995, an 'Agreed Minute' on Defence relations between India and the USA was signed. It provides for civilian-to-civilian interaction service-to-service cooperation and cooperation in the field of research and development.

(c) Government of India has been following a consistent policy on NPT and our Missile Programme. The question of succumbing to any pressure from any country, including America, on these issues, does not arise.

Indo-US Defence Cooperation Agreement

2652. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that India have signed a defence cooperation agreement with the United States of America; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the agreement and how it is going to benefit our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An 'Agreed Minute' on defence relations between India and the USA was signed during the visit of a defence delegation from the USA in January 1995. It provides for civilian-to-civilian interaction, service-to-service cooperation and cooperation in the field of research and development. The signing of this accord is in line with Government's stand that steps towards improvement of our bilateral defence relations with the US, will be taken in a manner consistent with our national interest.

Indian Army Personnel killed in Somalia

2653. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Indian army personnel and Indian doctors deputed to Somalia on UN Peace keeping mission, were killed during August-September this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) In two separate incidents which occurred on the 22nd & 31st August, 1994, 10 Indian personnel, including three Officers of the Army Medical Corps (AMC) were killed in Somalia.

(b) A Statement is attached. (*See* below).

(c) Both the incidents were immediately reported to the UN Headquarters who took appropriate measures to safeguard the security of our personnel. The Indian contingent to the UN Peace Keeping Mission in Somalia has since been deinducted.

Statement

On the 22nd August, 1994, one JCO and six ORS were killed in an ambush in Somalia while escorting some vehicles belonging to a firm which was on contract with the United Nations Peace Keeping Operation (UNOSOM) in connection with carrying out road repair in Somalia. Nine others were injured. In another incident on 31st August, 1994, three Officers of the Army Medical Corps (AMC) died in Somalia consequent upon an explosion.

A list of the 10 casualties is given below:—

List of Casualties

Sl. No.	No.	Rank	Name	Date of death
1.	JC-192485	Sub	Ganga Ram	22 Aug 94
2.	454693P	Hav	Ashok Kumar Singh	-do-
3.	4552147M	L Nk	Birpal Singh	-do-
4.	7430798W	Sep	Ram Lal Patel	-do-
5.	4556926M	Sep	Ram Pal Gupta	-do-
6.	4562409L	Sep	Devinder Chand	-do-
7.	4552722H	L Nk	Saudagar Singh	-do-
320 Fd. Ambulance				
8.	MR-04358W	Lt Col	CR Panda	31 Aug 94
9.	MR-04769P	Major	SP Dutta	-do-
10.	NTR-16419P	Major	Kishan Lal	-do-

Non-utilisation of additional Ordnance facilities

2654. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as reported in the 'Rajasthan Patrika' of the 24th October, 1994, additional Ordnance facilities created at a cost of millions of rupees are lying unused due to inordinate delay in the proposed transfer of technology for manufacture of ammunication of the 155 mm field gun following the ban imposed on AB Bofors; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard, indicating, the extent of delay suffered and the steps taken to make optimum use of the facilities and of technology transfer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) No additional facilities created have remained unutilised. Indigenous manufacture of 155 mm ammunition has already been commenced.

Aeronautical Policy note

2655. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Aeronautical Policy Note prepared to face with rising demand in the Civil Sector and massive fleet renewal in the military sector is under Government's consideration; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the draft Aeronautical Policy note and the decision, if any taken/likely to be taken by Government thereon stating the cost in the civil sector as well as in the military sector separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) A non-government professional body, the Aeronautical Society of India had prepared, on their own initiative, a paper on 'National Aeronautics Policy' covering requirements of civil as well as military sectors and had submitted a copy of the same to the Government.

(b) The policy paper submitted by the Society suggests that strengths of civil and